

III. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

MARKED VERSION OF CLAIMS WITH PRESENT STATUS DELINEATED

- THE CLAIMS ARE HEREIN AMENDED, CANCELLED, OR ADDED TO, SO AS TO EVENTUATE IN THE NEW SET OF PENDING CLAIMS INDICATED BELOW. THIS LISTING OF CLAIMS WILL REPLACE ALL PRIOR VERSIONS, AND LISTINGS, OF CLAIMS IN THE APPLICATION:

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 – 18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A rug and clip ~~for~~ assembly, the rug and clip assembly comprising: a clip comprising a channel-shaped bracket having a top portion defined by a front edge, a back edge, and two side edges, said top portion having an upper surface and a bottom surface, including a top portion having a bottom surface, a front leg portion extending from [a] said front first edge of [the] said top portion, and a rear leg portion extending from a ~~second edge~~ said back edge of [the] said top portion ~~opposite the first edge~~, wherein [the] said front leg and [the] said rear leg are positioned approximately perpendicular in relation to [the] said top portion; a clipping mechanism mounted to [the] said front leg configured for ~~tripping~~ gripping [the] said rug; and a non-slip material attached to [the] said bottom surface of [the] said top portion, and a rug disposed in said clip.

20. (Currently Amended) A rug and clip assembly as recited in Claim 19, wherein [the] said clipping mechanism is a cam-action clipping mechanism including an inner jaw extending from [the] said front leg, an outer jaw pivotally attached to [the] said front leg and configured to engage [the] said inner jaw to grip [the] said rug, and a cam arm pivotally attached to [the] said front leg for engaging the outer jaw to bias [the] said outer jaw into engagement with [the] said inner jaw.

21. (Currently Amended) A rug and clip assembly as recited in Claim 19, wherein [the] said clipping mechanism is a spring-action clipping mechanism including opposed jaw

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members pivotally secured to each other and biased with a coil spring to cause [the] said jaw members toward engagement for gripping [the] said rug.

22. (Currently Amended) A rug and clip assembly as recited in Claim 19, wherein [the] said channel-shaped bracket and [the] said clipping mechanism are made of stainless steel.

23. (Currently Amended) A rug and clip assembly as recited in Claim 19, wherein [the] said channel-shaped bracket and the clipping mechanism are made of galvanized plain steel.

24. (Currently Amended) A rug and clip assembly as recited in Claim 19 wherein [the] said non-slip material is selected from the group consisting of natural rubber, butyl, EPDM, hypalon, neoprene, [and] nitrile, and combinations thereof.

25. (Currently Amended) A rug and clip assembly as recited in Claim 19[,] wherein [the] said non-slip material is attached to [the] said bottom surface of [the] said top portion with an adhesive.

26. (Currently Amended) A rug and clip ~~for~~ assembly, the rug and clip assembly comprising: a clip comprising a channel-shaped bracket having a top portion defined by a front edge, a back edge, and two side edges, said top portion having an upper surface and a bottom surface, including a top portion having a bottom surface, a front leg portion extending from [the] said front first edge of [the] said top portion, and a rear leg portion extending from ~~a second edge~~ said back edge of [the] said top portion ~~opposite the first edge~~, wherein [the] said front leg and [the] said rear leg are positioned approximately perpendicular in relation to [the] said top portion; a cam-action clipping mechanism mounted to [the] said front leg for gripping, [the] said cam-action clipping mechanism including an inner jaw extending from [the] said front leg, an outer jaw pivotally attached to [the] said front leg and configured to engage [the] said inner jaw to grip, and a cam arm pivotally attached to [the] said front leg for engaging [the] said ~~out~~ outer jaw to bias [the] said outer jaw into engagement with [the] said inner jaw; and a non-slip material attached to [the] said bottom surface of [the] said top portion[,] and a rug incorporated into said clip.

27. (Currently Amended) A rug and clip assembly as recited in Claim 26, wherein [the] said channel-shaped bracket and [the] said cam-action clipping mechanism are made of stainless steel.

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28. (Currently Amended) A rug and clip assembly as recited in Claim 26, wherein [the] said channel-shaped bracket and [the] said cam-action clipping mechanism are made of galvanized plain steel.

29. (Currently Amended) A rug and clip assembly as recited in Claim 26, wherein [the] said non-slip material is selected from the group consisting of natural rubber, butyl, EPDM, hypalon, neoprene, [and] nitrile, and combinations thereof.

30. (Currently Amended) A rug and clip assembly as recited in Claim 26, wherein [the] said non-slip material is attached to the bottom surface of the top portion with an adhesive.

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